muscles is, on the contrary, that of *closing the valves*, and the position of these as related to the position of the compound ligament facilitates exactness in the inter-locking of the hinge teeth. Now these organs or devices for opening and closing the shells are of exceeding prominence in *S. Nuttallii*, and the opportunity for examining a fine series has recently been afforded me, by the gift of a large number for culinary purposes,[1] by Mr. and Mrs. Oldroyd.

The adductors are exceedingly large for shells of the size and weight, and the ligament being in proportionate size to these muscles, makes this form particularly desirable for the study of these characters. When alive and gaping, the least disturbance will be followed by an energetic closing of the shell, with a snap so vigorous as to cause a chipping or fracture of the vertical edges of the valves. The strength and tenacity of the grip, when the powerful adductors are brought into action, may be easily proven by the insertion of the finger-tips into a partially open shell.

The texture or substance of the shells in the *Saxidomi* is less compact or solid than in *Tivela crassatelloides*, and the comparative weight of examples of the same dimensions is as 10 to 13; while the mass of the adductors and ligaments are fully twice as large in *Saxidomus* as in *Tivela*, examples of the same size being compared.

The differences exhibited by these forms, both belonging to the *Veneridæ*, indicate differences in habits and environmental conditions, and no doubt others not readily perceived.

A NEW SPECIES OF SISTRUM.

BY HENRY A. PILSBRY.

Sistrum nicocheanum, n. sp.

Shell imperforate or rimate, fusiform, thick and strong, brownish flesh-colored, the spiral liræ brown. Sculpture of strong, rounded, longitudinal waves equal to their intervals, 8 or 7 in number on the last whorl; these waves crossed by rather strong spiral cords, which widen into transversely oblong low tubercles upon the summits of the waves. Between these cords there are several spiral threads in most or all of the intervals. Whorls about $5\frac{1}{2}$, convex, the last one with concave outlines below, produced in a rather long anterior

[1] This "clam" makes an exceedingly delicious soup or broth.

canal. Aperture oval, flesh-colored within; peristome thick or beveled, armed with six subequal teeth within; columellar margin angular at the origin of the anterior canal, bearing a single small transverse fold above the angle; canal rather straight and long for this genus.

Length 21½, diam. 11, length of aperture and canal 12 mm.

Nicochea, Argentina, Dr. H. von Ihering. Types no. 72640 coll. A. N. S. P.

This species is no. 877 of Dr. von Ihering's register. It has much the general appearance of *Urosalpinx cinereus* (Say), which has about the same contour. The common Antillean *Sistrum nodulosum* is more abbreviated, with far stronger tuberculation and a short anterior canal. It extends southward to Rio Janeiro and Cabo Frio, Brazil (*Cf.* Hidalgo, Mol. Viaje al Pacifico, p. 67, as *R. tuberculata* Blv. var.?).

A NEW GUATEMALAN GLANDINA.

BY HENRY A. PILSBRY.

Glandina Iheringi n. sp.

Shell obesely fusiform or biconic, the diameter half the altitude; pale brown, with *occasional dark chestnut or purplish-brown variceal stripes*, inconspicuously bordered on the left side with whitish. Surface shining, *finely and evenly striated throughout*, excepting the smooth apical whorls; spire conic, with nearly straight lateral outlines, the apex rather acute. Whorls 7⅓, a little convex, the earlier 2½ smooth, separated by a simple suture, the rest very *distinctly margined below the suture by an impressed line which defines a narrow band of bead-like tubercles*. Last whorl *obese*, its latter half not rapidly descending, the last suture being consequently nearly parallel with the others, in a dorsal view. Aperture somewhat over half the shell's length, narrow; *outer lip regularly arcuate;* columella subvertical, concave above, then sinuous and abruptly truncated and excised. Alt. 25, diam. 12½; longest axis of aperture 14½, greatest width 5⅔ mm.

Alta Vera Paz, Guatemala. Type no. 78036 Mus. Acad. Nat. Sci. (no. 413 of Dr. H. von Ihering's register).

This elegantly marked species is somewhat allied to *G. cordovana*